

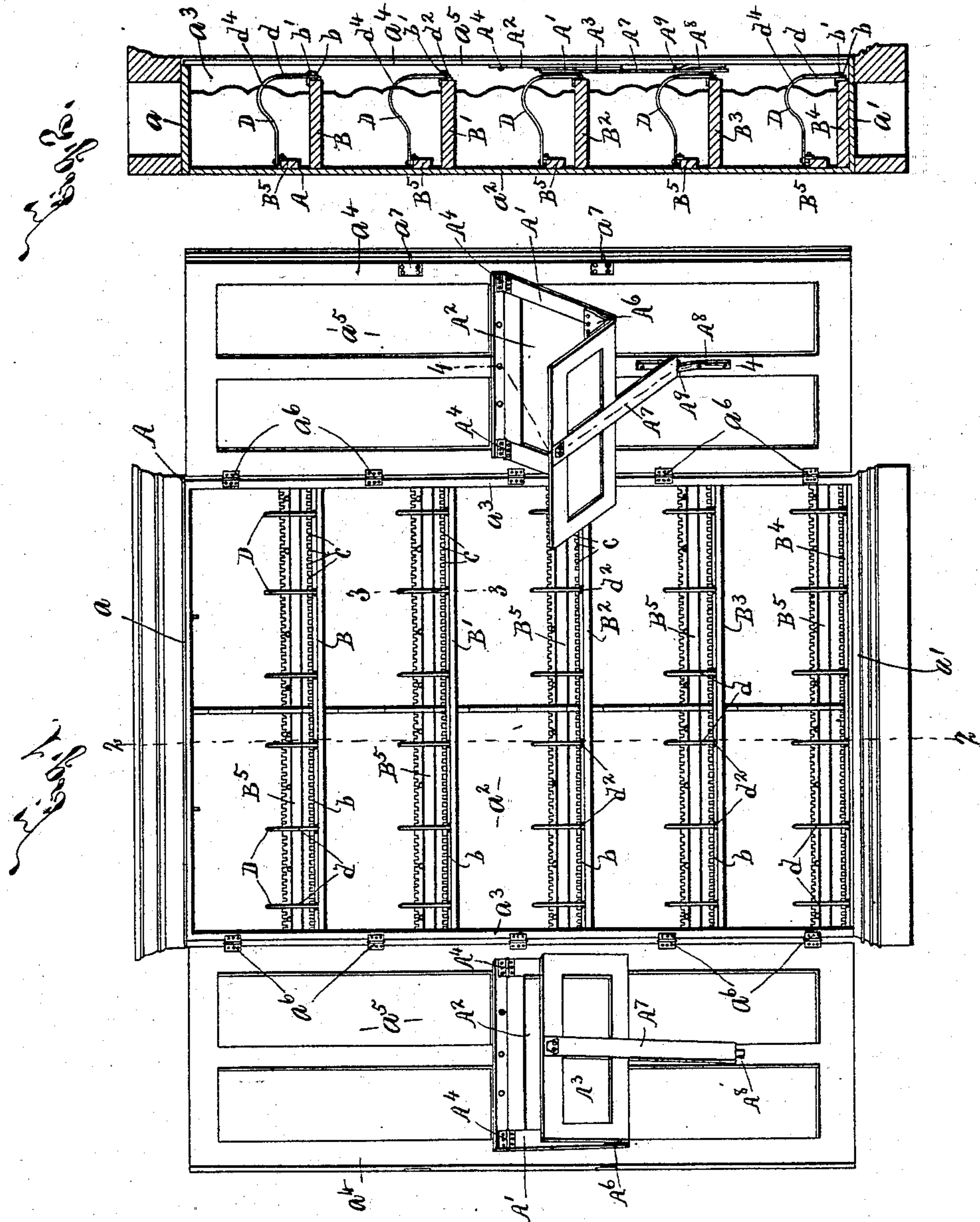
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. J. WELLS.
CABINET FILE.

No. 578,796.

Patented Mar. 16, 1897.



WITNESSES:

H. C. Chase.
H. H. Thorndall.

INVENTOR

Arthur J. Wells.

BY

Wm. Wilkinson & Parsons
ATTORNEYS,

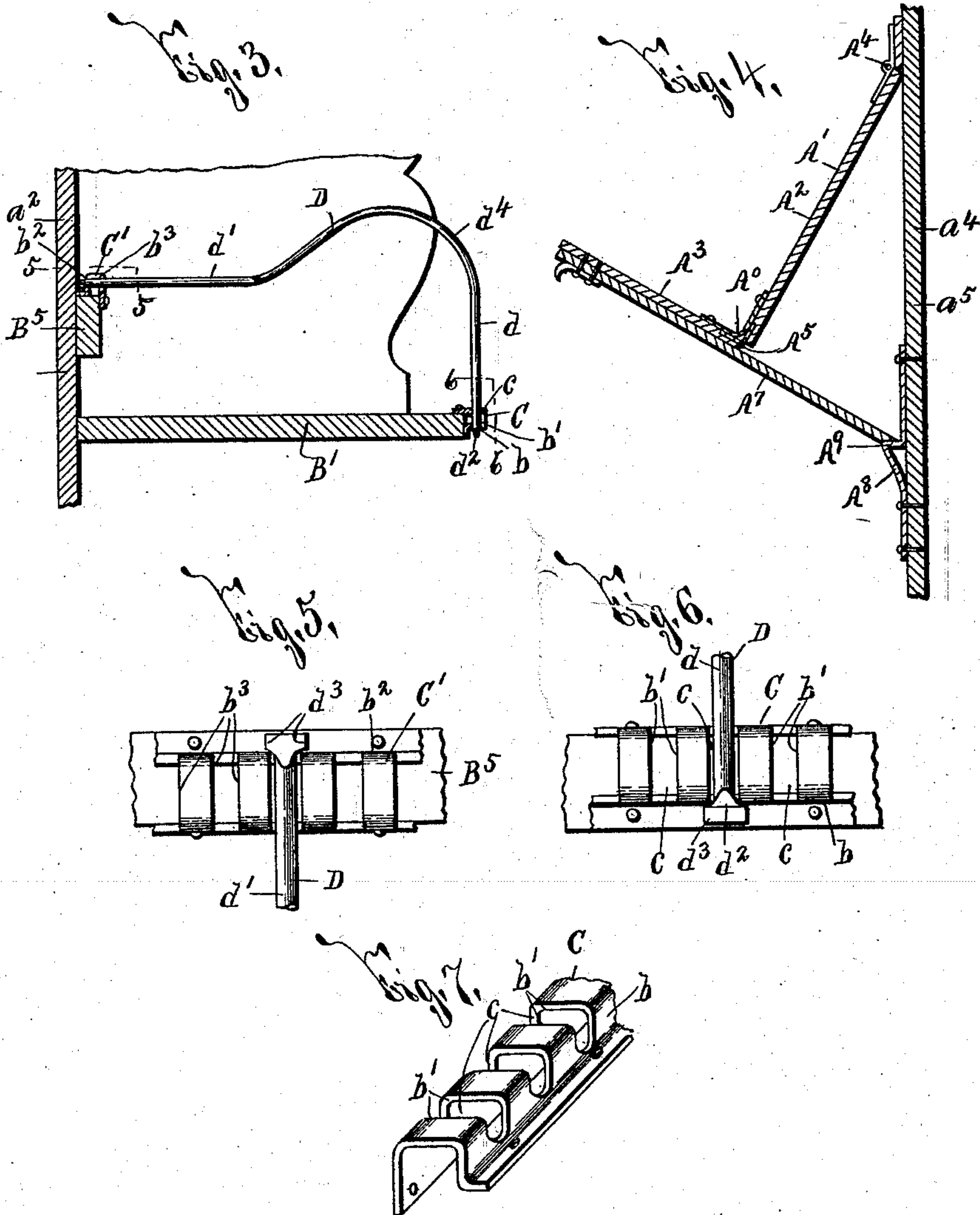
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR J. WELLS, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

CABINET-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 578,796, dated March 16, 1897.

Application filed November 26, 1894. Serial No. 530,022. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR J. WELLS, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cabinet-Files, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved file-cabinet of somewhat similar construction to the file-case set forth in my application, Serial No. 530,023, and has for its object the production of a practical and simple device for receiving, filing, and effectively supporting letters, circulars, books, and other matter; and to this end it consists, essentially, in the construction and arrangement of the component parts of the file-cabinet, all as hereinafter more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims, which include nothing covered by the claims of said concurrent pending application.

In describing this invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is an elevation of my file-cabinet, its movable doors or covers being shown as open and one of the folding shelves being illustrated in its operative position. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on line 2 2, Fig. 1, the doors or covers being shown as closed. Figs. 3 and 4 are enlarged vertical sectional views taken, respectively, on lines 3 3 and 4 4, Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a horizontal detail sectional view taken on line 5 5, Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a vertical detail sectional view taken on line 6 6, Fig. 3; and Fig. 7 is an isometric view of one of the plates or strips for forming the supporting-shoulders for the engaging portions of the normally-fixed adjustable partitions.

In my aforesaid application, Serial No. 530,023, I have shown a file-case consisting of an inclosing case having its base or bottom wall provided with an upwardly-extending shoulder formed with supporting-shoulders at its outer edge and its rear wall provided with a rib or bar arranged above said upwardly-extending shoulder and also formed with supporting-shoulders, and a series of

normally-fixed partitions removably engaged by said supporting-shoulders.

My present invention consists of a file-cabinet comprising an inclosing case adapted to be mounted upon a floor or other similar support, a series of shelves arranged one above the other within the case and formed with supporting-shoulders at their outer edges, ribs or bars arranged above the shelves in proximity to the rear wall of the case and provided with supporting-shoulders, and normally-fixed adjustable partitions having engaging portions arranged one above and in advance of the other and engaged with said shoulders, so as to assist in supporting the front edges of the shelves. The letters, circulars, books, and other matter can thus be arranged in several series, one above the other, within the adjustable compartments formed by the adjustable partitions and are readily and conveniently referred to when desired.

A represents the inclosing case, which is of any desirable form, size, and construction, and is here illustrated as a rectangular upright box composed of top, bottom, rear, end, and front walls a a' a^2 a^3 a^4 . The front wall a^4 consists of opposite upright doors or covers a^5 a^5 , hinged at a^6 at their outer upright edges. The adjacent edges of the doors are provided with a suitable fastening device a^7 for holding the same in their normal closed position. As illustrated, the doors a^5 form substantially the entire front wall of the case A, but, if desired, they may form only a portion thereof.

The normal inner face of each of the doors or covers a^5 is provided with a movable folding shelf A' , consisting of hinged sections A^2 A^3 . Each shelf-section A^2 is secured to the corresponding door or cover a^5 by hinges A^4 at its upper edge, and is secured to the lower edge of the section A^3 by hinges A^5 at its lower edge, and a flexible strip A^6 is also employed to cover this hinge A^5 , so as to prevent papers from catching therein. Each shelf A' is provided with a projecting engaging arm A^7 , having a hook or handpiece at its front extremity, its body fixed to the intermediate portion of the section A^3 and its opposite extremity projecting beyond the lower edge of said section A^3 and below the section A^2 .

The projecting end of the arm A^7 is movable along the lower end of a bar or strip A^8 into engagement with a stop A^9 , consisting of a shoulder projecting from the intermediate
5 portion of said bar or strip.

When the doors or covers a^5 are closed, the shelves A' are readily folded by lifting on the hook of the arm A^7 and project a minimum degree beyond the inner faces of said doors or
10 covers, as clearly seen at Fig. 2. As the doors are opened the free upper edge of the section A^3 of either or both of the shelves A' may be swung outwardly by means of said hook and is simultaneously elevated, and the arm A^7 is
15 moved along the bar or strip A^8 until its lower end engages the stop A^9 , whereupon said shelf is in its operative position and firmly and practically supports any articles placed thereupon, as the articles arranged within the
20 case A .

$B B' B^2 B^3$ are a series of shelves arranged one above the other within the case A and projecting from its rear wall a^2 . The shelves $B B' B^2 B^3$ are preferably of similar construction, and are formed with supporting-shoulders $b b'$ at their outer edges. The shoulders b preferably extend lengthwise of said shelves, and the shoulders b' extend at substantially right angles with the shoulders b . A suitable
25 plate C , channel-shaped in cross-section and provided with a series of transverse slots or perforations c , is preferably secured to the outer edges of the shelves $B B' B^2 B^3$ and forms a simple and practical means of providing said shelves with the shoulders $b b'$.
30 The bottom wall a' of the case A is preferably provided with an upwardly-extending shoulder B^4 , having its outer edge also provided with shoulders $b b'$ similar to the shoulders
35 $b b'$ previously described.

Arranged above the shoulders $b b'$ of the shelves $B B' B^2 B^3$ and the base-shoulder B^4 at one side thereof are a series of supporting-shoulders $b^2 b^3$ of substantially the same
45 construction as the shoulders $b b'$. The shoulders b^2 extend lengthwise of said shelves and upwardly-extending shoulder, and the shoulders b^3 extend at substantially right angles with the shoulders b^2 . Suitable ribs or bars
50 B^5 are provided with the shoulders $b^2 b^3$ and are supported on or in proximity to the rear or back wall a^2 of the inclosing case. The upper edges of these ribs or bars are provided with plates C' similar to the plates C previously described, and, as clearly seen at Fig.
55 3, the plates C' are so arranged upon the ribs or bars B^5 that the shoulders b^2 are separated from the adjacent or inner face of the wall a^2 .

$D D$ are normally-fixed adjustable partitions supported within the inclosing case upon the shelves $B B' B^2 B^3$ and the upwardly-extending base-shoulder B^4 . These adjustable partitions are formed with portions d^2 for engaging the shoulders $b b' b^2 b^3$
60 and form, essentially, a series of adjustable compartments within the inclosing case, and said engaging portions of the partitions are

also engaging portions for said compartments. Each of the partitions D preferably consists of a spring bar or strip formed with arms $d d'$,
70 arranged at an angle with each other and having their free ends suitably formed for engaging the shoulders $b b' b^2 b^3$.

As illustrated, the outer ends or engaging portions d^2 of said arms are inserted between
75 the shoulders $b' b^3$, and their extremities are flattened and thereby provided with lateral arms or projections d^3 , which engage the shoulders $b b^2$. The central portions d^4 of the partitions D are preferably formed convex, as
80 clearly seen at Figs. 2 and 3. Partitions of this construction are readily inserted in operative position and are suitably adjusted to the desired width of compartment for most
85 effectively supporting the front edges of the shelves and separating articles inserted between the same. The upper and lower extremities of the partitions D are firmly supported, and said partitions are consequently
90 capable of sustaining considerable strain without liability of lateral movement of either extremity and consequent displacement and disarrangement. Moreover, partitions constructed and supported as described are readily assembled in operative position within the
95 inclosing case and are readily detached and adjusted, when desired, since the rear supporting-shoulders of the inclosing case and the rear engaging portions of the partitions detachably interlocking with said shoulders
100 are elevated above the front shoulders of the inclosing case and the front engaging portions of the partitions, and are therefore directly in sight, which would not be the case were the partitions supported only at their
105 bases, as in my Patent No. 466,969.

The partitions of each of the shelves and of the upwardly-extending base-shoulder are independently adjustable, and consequently
110 liability of waste room within the cabinet is reduced to a minimum, as each compartment may be adjusted to conform to the desired width. The articles within the compartments are readily withdrawn and placed upon the
115 filing-shelves when arranged in operative position, and ready access and reference thereto are thus greatly facilitated.

The operation of my file-cabinet will be readily understood upon reference to the foregoing description and the accompanying
120 drawings, and it will be evident that the exact detail, construction, and arrangement of its component parts may be more or less varied without departing from the spirit of my invention.
125

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a substantially upright wall, a transverse rail or bar secured to
130 the upright wall and provided with a series of supporting-shoulders having their inner edges separated from the adjacent face of the upright wall, a substantially horizontal wall

arranged beneath said rail or bar and provided with a series of supporting-shoulders arranged beneath and in advance of the former shoulders and normally-fixed partitions 5 adjustable toward and away from each other, said partitions having engaging portions arranged one above and in advance of the other and detachably engaged with the shoulders of said walls, the upper engaging portions of 10 the partitions being provided with shoulders interposed between the inner edges of the shoulders provided upon the rail or bar and the adjacent face of the upright wall, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

15 2. In a file-cabinet, the combination of an inclosing case, an upright door or cover for said case, a movable shelf supported on the door or cover and consisting of a section hinged to the door and a second section hinged 20 to the former section and provided with an arm projecting beyond the hinge for said sections, and a stop upon the door or cover for engaging said arm and holding the shelf in

its operative position, substantially as described.

25 3. In a file-cabinet, the combination of an inclosing case, an upright door or cover for said case, a movable shelf supported on the door or cover and consisting of a section hinged to the door, a second section hinged 30 at its inner edge to the lower edge of the former section and provided with a projecting arm, a stop upon the door or cover for engaging said arm and holding the shelf in its operative position, and a flexible strip secured 35 to the adjacent portions of the inner faces of said sections, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Syracuse, in the county of 40 Onondaga, in the State of New York, this 12th day of November, 1894.

ARTHUR J. WELLS.

Witnesses:

K. H. THEOBALD,
H. E. CHASE.